(Rs. in crores)

Year	Central Excise	
	Value of goods seized	Estimated duty evasion detected
1984	22·83	64·49
1985	40·73	340·83
1986 (upto Sept.)	3·57	425·76

(c) Smuggling being a clandestine activity, no reliable estimates are feasible. However, it can be stated that the liberalised reward scheme has acted as an incentive for increased seizures of contrabands and detection of larger number of cases of tax evasions.

Standing Labour Committee on workers' participation in management

*408. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1614 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd December, 1985 and state :

(a) whether the Standing Labour Committee has since taken a decision with regard to the workers' participation in the management of public, private and co-operative sector establishments;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The 28th Session of the Indian Labour Conference (ILC) held in November, 1985 had agreed in principle to the implementation of the Scheme of Workers' Participation in the public, private and co-operative sectors at various levels.

As recommended by the ILC, the question whether the scheme should be voluntary or by legislation was placed before the Standing Labour Committee which in its meeting held at Delhi on 22nd & 23rd September, 1986 has remitted the question to the Tripartite Committee.

(c) In view of the reply to (a) & (b) above, does not arise.

Efforts by the Labour Ministry for better conditions of work for beedi workers

*409. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent efforts made by his Ministry towards welfare and better conditions of work for the beedi workers have yielded positive results;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to bring about coordination among the beedi workers' unions, Labour Inspectors, Labour Commissioners and Excise officials in realising cess on manufactured beedis;

(c) what is the rate of cess being presently levied on manufactured beedis; and

(d) whether it is a fact that Government propose to raise the rate of cess; if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A large number of identity cards have been issued to beedi workers to enable them to obtain access to welfare facilities. New medical institutions have been opened, housing projects have been sanctioned and scholarships are being given to larger number of children.

(b) The cess is realised by the Central Excise Department alongwith the excise duty.

(c) Ten paise per 1000 beedis.

(d) No, Sir.

Issue of tax-free bonds by public sector undertakings

*410. SHRI J. P. GOYAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of the public sector undertakings which have been permitted to issue tax-free bonds to the public;

(b) what is the purpose for which they were allowed to issue these bonds and what are the other details about these bonds; and

(c) the extent to which these bonds have been subscribed by the public ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b) The details of the issue of tax-free bonds permitted by the Controller of Capital Issues are given below :—

Sl. No.	Name of the company	Amount of issue permitted.	Date of consent	Rate of interest	Purpose of issue
		(Rs. in crores)			
1.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	150·00	4-9-86	14% Wealth Tax free or 10% Income Tax and Wealth Tax free.	To finance capital projects.
2	National Thermal Power Corpn. Ltd.	180·00	30-9-86	10% Income Tax and Wealth Tax free or 14% Wealth Tax free.	Capital investment for the National Capital Thermal Power Project.

(c) As neither of the above public units has completed its bond issues, it is not possible to indicate the extent of subscription.

STC Scheme to boost exports

*411. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has formulated any scheme to enter into high technology export areas to boost production by public sector units and to increase exports; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether the STC has signed memoranda of understanding with any public sector undertaking and if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : (a) and (b) STC has formulated schemes to enter into high technology export areas. They have signed memoranda of understanding with some public sector units. It will not, however, be in the commercial interest of the Corporation to divulge the details of such schemes/memoranda.

Use of Pak air bases by USA

*412. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan has allowed U.S.A. to use Pak air base since 1983;

(b) if so, whether the matter was taken up with the Pakistan Government; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative what was the response of Pakistan Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) to (c) According to the US Government, its military aircraft periodically transit Pakistan with the approval of the Pakistan Government. The latter has also confirmed this stating that the accord of such facilities was normal practice.

पंजाब और दिल्ली में बैंकों में पड़ी डकैतियां

*413. **श्री राधाकिशन मालवीय** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत वर्ष के दौरान पंजाब और दिल्ली में बैंकों में कितनी डकैतियां पड़ी;

(ख) इन डकैतियों में कितने बैंक कर्मचारी मारे गये तथा कुल कितनी धनराशि लूटी गई; और

(ग) सरकार ने बैंकों तथा बैंक कर्मचारियों की सुरक्षा के लिये क्या-क्या कदम उठाये हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जनार्दन पुजारी): (क) और (ख) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने सूचित किया है कि वर्ष 1985 के दौरान